

THE
DECEIVER
OF THE
NATIONS
DISCOVERED:
AND HIS
CRUELTY
Made Manifest.

AND

How he hath deceived the Nations, and wrought his Works of Darkneſs, more hiddenly under the Mask of *Higher Power*, and *Holy Church*; and ſo perſecutes the Righteous Seed, and makes them ſuffer under the Name of evil Doers, in theſe latter daies.

More eſpecially his cruel works of Darkneſs laid open and re- proved in *Maryland* in *Virginia*, And the ſad Sufferings of the Servants of the Lord there, by his cruel Inſtruments.

Sent back unto them again, that they may view their Work again, and repent and be aſhamed; leſt the Wrath of God ſink them into the Pit, as it hath done many before them, who have oppoſed the Lord.

By a Lover of Mercy and Truth,
FRA. HOWGILL.

London: Printed for Thomas Simmons, at the ſign of the Bull and Mouth, near Alderſgate. 1680.

Great and many hath the tryals and sufferings been of the faithful witnesses of God in all Generations, by the seed of evil doers, who would not that Righteousness should Reign, and Truth have dominion, because then the glory of their Kingdom that standeth in false-hood and deceit, would be stained and blasted, and not be had in honour and admiration: Therefore the Devil, who was a lyer and a murtherer, and an oppressor from the beginning, hath laboured by all his power, to deceive mankind; That he might exalt his throne & kingdom, (which consisteth wholly of iniquity) in the hearts of the Sons of men, that so he might be honoured and worshipped, and his unrighteous decrees fulfilled, and himself admired above the true God, which made both Heaven and Earth, and all things that are therein, who alone ought to be worshipped and honoured above all, who is blessed for ever, whose Kingdom stands in Righteousness, Equity, Truth, and Peace for ever; Therefore *Satan* being cursed and banished from the presence of the Lord, for ever, being full of enmity, wrath and rage, murther, madnesse and fury in which he lives, envying the happinesse and felicity of them who worship the true God, hath laboured to deceive and lead the hearts of the sons of Men aside from the holy Commandment of God, to believe a lie and to trust in lying vanities, and to lead them into his kingdom of darknesse, and into his own devilish and hellish nature, & hath prevailed over many & overcame them, and hath made them subject to his power, to fulfil his will and to do his work, and multitudes have been led into the broad way, in the paths of darknesse, and into the region of the shadow of death, and death covers them as a garment, and the shadow of death as a pavilion; And the works they work, are the works of darknesse, and although they live as Creatures upon the Earth, yet they are dead while they live unto any good, being wholly swallowed up of death, and that acts in them, and he who hath the power of death, who is called the Devil, the evil doer, contrary in all his actions unto God and all goodness, and he having wrought in the hearts of the disobedient Children his works, and begotten them to his nature, and fil-

ed them with unrighteousnesse, which is the food of evil doers, they bring forth his work, and works his work in the Earth, and labours to destroy the Creation, and to subvert it from that end for which it was made, and also to deface the Image of God, and to destroy it where ever it appeares, and the Creature in whom it is and bears rule; and thus since the transgression when he hath prevailed, he hath filled the Earth with darknesse and with violence, and hath set up the seat thereof, and strives that it might be exalted for ever, and in former ages He hath wrought in his instruments, Ministers and subjects, and then they did his work, and brought it forth, and opposed the servants of the Lord, and did violence unto them that fulfilled his will, and testified against the World that their deeds were evil, evil doers, who hates reproof, hath seeked to destroy them that testified against their evil deeds; As *Cain* that wicked one, begotten in the transgression, yet a worshipper & an offerer of sacrifice, rose up & slew his brother, and many have gone in his way, & then the Devils kingdom began to increase and grow great, & then they that were subjects of it, made the Just to suffer as all along, till now is manifest by the Scripture of Truth, and yet them who made them to suffer, would never acknowledg that it was for well doing, but for evil doing; and thus the Devil hath covered himself as not to be known by the name of evil doer, and thus hath he blinded his subjects, in making them believe they were doing good, when they acted all manner of unrighteousnesse, and they that suffered for the Truths sake were accounted as evil doers, by this blind generation; and so all the Holy men and faithful witnesses of God in former generations, All the Prophets and holy Martyres, who loved not their lives unto death, (by the seed of evil doers) were counted evil doers, and killed as such in their account, and such is the misterious working of *Sathan*, the next generation will take up the words of them that have been killed before, and suffer his messengers to take their words and admire them that are gone before, while they are doing the same work & killing & destroying the Righteous seed as before; As the Pharisees gadded the Sepulchres of the Prophets and crucified the Son of God, as a blasphemous: Unto whom all the Prophets bore witness, and yet adored and cried up the Law and the Prophets in words, and hated their life; And so the Apostles and Ministers of Christ, after Christs ascension; were

were accounted blasphemers, tedious, tumultuous, restless, and factions, and were stoned and tortured as evil doers, by Councils and Rulers, and Heads of the People, and many suffered as evil doers, in the account of them who made them such, and as transgressors of Lawes, and Customes, and Statutes, were accounted alwayes such; by the seed of evil doers.

And so the Devil having got the name of higher Power, and of chief Ruler, hath made many wicked and ungodly changeable lawes, and them that could not be subject unto them for conscience sake, although they do violence to none, they must be judged and condemned as seditious, and Traytors and mutinous.

And since myster, *Babylon*, the mother of Harlots, hath been exalted as a Queen, riding upon the Beast in Majesty, and hath got a Golden cup in her hand, and the name of a Church, and her Children having got on the outside the sheeps cloathing, and hates the Life, she hath drank the blood of the Saints, and so did never the Lambs wife, nor never will; So, under the name of higher Power, and holy Church, all the blood of the Righteous hath been spilt, and the dear Servants of God have suffered in this time of Antichrists reign, as Traytors, and Seditious, and Tumultuous, and peace-Breakers, in the account of the Dragon and Beast, who sits in the Seat of violence, and in the throne of inquiry, and crowned pride and cruelty, which hath got the name of higher power, without being in it, and so lives in deceit and a lie.

And the false worshippers, and the abominable sacrificers, whose hands is full of blood, and hearts full of rottenness, who hath taken up the outward dresse and attire of the free-woman, and painted themselves withal, that they might deceive the Nations, this hath got the name of Holy Church, as though she were the Lords spouse. When indeed on her head is written the names of Blasphemy, & she hath drunk the blood of the Martyrs, and censured them, who have kept the Testimony of Jesus, to death, Exile and Banishment, and hath made havock of the dear Servants of the Lord, and hath visited the Lords Spouse, and made the Lambs Wife fly into the Wilderness, whilst she hath raised her City with blood, and hath layed the foundation thereof in iniquity, and hath raised her self into

into honour, by slaying and killing, and by her forceries, and Inchantments, and hath made the Nations drunk therewith, and they admire thee, but thy downfall is coming, and the day hastens that calamity shall take hold of thee, and thy secret Parts shall be discovered, and thy loathsomnesse shall appear, and thy lovers shall hate thee, and shall drink in no more of thy bewitching Inchantments, and thou shalt no more be called Holy, but abominable and prophane, and thy glory shall be turned into dung and thy excellency into mire, and thy decrees shall be made void, and utter misery shall be thy end, and them that have suffered shall rejoyce and triumph over thee for ever, for God is arisen who judgeth righteously, and will reward her double according to her works; and the beast that hath arisen out of the bottomlesse pit, who hath arrogated unto himself the name of higher power, shall be taken and cast into the Lake, and all those tyrannous, cruel, wicked, changeable, murderous Laws which he hath made and forced upon men to uphold the power of his dominion, shall be troden under foot and be had in contempt and dishonour by all the followers of the Lamb, who is gone out conquering and to conquer, and shall subdue his enemies and overcome them, and slay the wicked by the sword that proceeds out of his mouth.

And oh what a havock hath the Devil made in the Earth, since the dayes of the Apostles, since he hath got the form of godlinesse, and hath transformed himself into all outward appearances of worship, and Antichrist hath been exalted above the true God in the Earth, and hath turned Christian in name, and hath preached Christ in words, and hath covered himself with the sheeps cloathing, the outside, that he might not appear as he is an enemy to the Power and Life of the true God, that so he might deceive and hath deceived thousands; for since the dayes of the Apostacy, that the Power and the Life hath been lost, the Devil and Antichrist hath turned Law-makers and Law-givers, and Law Executors, and Rulers of Nations and Kingdoms, and hath made spoil in the Nations, under that name of higher Power: Nay further, Antichrist hath turned Church-member, nay Church-officer, Preacher and a great Ordinance-man, a Preacher, a Prayer, a Singer, a Baptizer, a Worshipper of the strictest sort in the Nations, and hath taken up the visible actions and practises of the Disciples,

sciples, Apostles, Ministers and Believers, so far as they have been outward, and now in these things, and by this Holen cover, deceives people, and opposes the true Christ and his Life and power & coming in the spirit, and yet notwithstanding all this large Philastary and long and large garment, yet the inside is devilish, hellish, murderous, cruel, ravenous and devouring; And who will but look back and take a view, from the beginning of the Devils kingdom, until Christ was manifest in the flesh, shall find these things true, that under the name of Higher Power, and under the name of Holy Church he hath destroyed the Nations, and hath laid waste Gods Heritage, and hath defaced his Image and destroyed his workmanship, and hath laid all the blame upon the Righteous Seed, and condemned them for evil doers, for not being subject to Authority, for Law-breakers, and for seditions and tumultuous, and for Heresie and Errour and Blasphemy, and as ungodly; for all the righteous Prophets and Believers in former time, were judged and suffered as ungodly in the account of the Devil and his agents, as though he and his Instruments had been the greatest friends of God and of Believers.

And who will but view the Scriptures of Truth from the manifesting of Christ in the flesh till his Ascention, and also afterward, may see that the Devil under the name of Higher Power and under the name of Authority hath made spoil and havock of men and their estates, and hath killed and destroyed the Just as evil doers, and have exacted upon the Righteous by wicked impositions and cruel corrupt Laws made to uphold his Authority, which standeth in darknesse; And the false Church, under the name of a holy Church, hath sentenced them as blasphemers, as erroneous, and as enemies to God, who kept his commands and did the will of our Heavenly Father, as the blind Jews in their ignorance judged Christ as a Blasphemer, and as an enemy to the Law, and crucified him, and persecuted the Apostles, and put them in prison as seditions and tumultuous, and as pestilent, and assaulted the house of Jason, and beat and abused, scourged and whipped them with stripes, and loaded them with reproaches, and haled them before Magistrates and Rulers, and falsely accused them, and followed them from place to place, and stirred up the rude sort and cried out, *Help men of Israel, for they turn the World upside down,*

down, and so persecuted them from City to City as evil doers.

And after the dayes of the Apostles, when there was a defection made from the Faith, and the Power was denied and lost, yet the form retained, then mystery *Babylon* began to rise, and the murderous City began to be builded, and the Nations to drink of her Fornication, and swallowed down her deceit; Then began the Nations to be Waters, and Kindreds, and Tongues, to reel too and fro; Then all became as a Sea with waves and boisterous; then the Beast rose out of it, and he got the name of Authority and higher power, and then turned against the Righteous, and made lawes in the wicked nature, that all that would not be subject to him must be killed, and they were killed under the name of evil doers, for that title they must bear; and both the beast, the first and the second, which the Mother of Harlots, shed the blood of the Saints as Eronious, Seditious, Blatphemous; and all this long night of Antichrists reign they that keep the Testimony of Jesus have been killed, destroyed, persecuted, some as being Enemies to the Higher Power, and some as Law-breakers, and Seditious, and some as Eronious and Dangerous; so this many hundred years hath the Devil been exalted, and Antichrist advanced under the name of Christ, and under this Title have killed and wasted the Creatures, and destroyed the Creation, by the name of Higher Power, and by the name of Holy Church, and by the name of Christian hath devoured and destroyed thousands by cruel Deaths, Tortures, Bloodshed, Fining, Prisoning, Haling to Prison, Whipping, Scourging the Righteous as Malefactors and evil doers, them that were dear in the eyes of the Lord, and were not defiled with the Abominations of the times, and all them that bore Testimony to Righteousnesse, were condemned for unrighteous, and censured as evil doers; and thus in short all may see how the Devil hath disguised himself and transformed himself into the likeness of Truth, as an assenter of Righteousnesse, and a vindicator of Himselfe, and to have deceived the Nations, and led them into blindness, that he might hold up his Kingdom and Government in the Earth, and that he might be worshipped and honoured above the True and living God, and who hath but taken a view of the Ecclesiastical Histories, of the affairs of things since the Apostacy, may clearly see that
great

great and many hath been the sufferings of the Righteous by this generation of evil-doers, who have got the favour of Higher power, and also of Holiness, and to have risen up against the Saints and faithful witnesses of God, who lived in the life and power thereof, and have shed their blood, and made havock and spoil of Gods Heritage, and hath destroyed his workmanship, and have made the hearts of the Righteous sad, whom God never made sad.

But what need I go backward to Ages and Generations past to demonstrate this, when our own Age and Generation bringeth forth so many and sad evidences of these things, which of the sufferings and sad persecutions were summed up of this seven years last past in *England*, a larger Volume might be made then hath been in many years past, and yet this spirit which hath made them suffer hath pretended more righteousness then before, both in that which is called Church & State; but the Devilish enmity of that which would be called the Higher power hath been such which hath transcended the cruelties of the Beast in former dayes, and under the name of Holiness and Propagation of Gospel and Religion, the power of Godliness hath been despised, and them that have walked and lived in it have been set at naught and persecuted, imprisoned, whipped, scourged, afflicted and tormented, and hath been killed all the day long; but many of them who have been the actors of these cruelties, they are sunk as a stone into the Sea, and God hath overturned that horn and broke it off, although it exalted it self high a while, and reigned one hour with the Beast, in compelling and forcing the Righteous by their wicked instructions and unrighteous decrees: But Reader, if thou wilt hear the Beasts judgement, and the Harious censure they will tell thee this hath been done onely to that people who were not subject to the Higher Power, nor to the Faith of the Holy Church; and therefore though they have been afflicted and have suffered, yet it was not for well-doing, but for evil, and so it is just upon them; and what hath been done it hath been for the glory of God, & for the peace of the Nation, but the greatest deceiver never wanted a cover, nor the greatest transgression an excuse to hide its deceit: And now when the Lamb hath appeared to make War in the earth with the Beast and his followers, Gog and Magog

gathers together, and all the powers of darkness with their whole strength is mustered up together to withstand, and the Dragon, Beast, Whore, and false prophet, all joyns in one battel to resist and to keep their Kingdom. Reader, thou canst not be ignorant of the War that is begun in *England*, and the battel hath been hot for a short time, and though the oppression hath been great upon the Beast and the Whores party, yet their power is weakened, and their strength more feeble; For the Lamb he prevails, and his followers shall overcome, although the way by which he and they overcome, even by suffering, the world will not own, yet happy are they who loves not their lives unto Death, and that doth suffer the spoyling of their goods for his Names sake, and his Truths sake, their reward shall be great. And now Reader, thou shalt see what rage the Devil is in, who hath got the name of Higher power, and the mother of Harlots who goes under the disguise of holy Church, in *America*; Of the Dragons power thou hath heard in *New England*, how he hath compelled or at least would compel all to be subject unto him, or else would Kill, Banish, and Destroy and lay waste all that will not bear his Image, and receive his mark, and the Harlot which is decked there she hath shed the blood of the Saints, because they would not drink her cup of Fornication, so seeks to destroy and to lay waste the Heritage of God, and to root out the Righteous, and all they have done unto the dear Servants of the Lord must go upon the account of evil doing, and to the seed of evil doers thou may see is one, In their Works, in their Judgement, in their Practice in all Generations.

And now take a view of the Beast & his power, and the Holy Church in *Virginia*, and see their proceeding, as the Prophet saith, as is the mother so is the daughter; And there thou may read the sad suffering of the dear Servants of the Lord, and how deceit acts there in great madnesse, rage, and fury, as though they would devour at once with open mouth, as though they had never read the Scriptures nor heard of God, or Equity, or Righteousnesse, or Christ, wherein Christianity doth consist, in so much as the *Indians*, as thou may see in the following Narration, who they judge to be Heathen, exceeded in kindnesse, in courtesie, in love, in mercy unto them who were strangers altogether unto them,
and

[11]
and not of their Nation nor people, a shame to the most
Rulers of *Maryland*, that should act so barbarously to their
own people, and them that came to visit them in the Name
of the Lord, that instead of receiving them and the tender
visitation of Gods love, wholly rejected them, and made order
after order, & warrant after warrant for Prisoning, banishing
and Whipping of them who came unto them in the Name of
the Lord; in such heat they were that I have seen 15. warrants
out against one man in a little time and in one Province, the
which I shall not trouble the Reader with, all which warrants
are for taking of one man, and the accusations or things
led to his charge, the same as that the old enemies of
God used to accuse withal, dangerous to their Province and
destructive to their Church, a seditious person and
a Blasphemer, and the like, and so though none of these
things was true, yet he must suffer with the rest, who stood
in Gods Counsel and did his work and testified of him; All
this that hath been done must go upon the account of evil do-
ing, and thus the Devil hath holden up his kingdom in all
ages, by laying things to the charge of them that did the will
of the living God, that thereby he might cover himself, and
that people who are in ignorance might believe they suffered
as evil doers, that so he might keep his Kingdom in Peace,
and all people subject unto his power of darknesse.

And Oh! what havock and spoil hath these Rulers in *Maryland*
made upon their own people, and their own Inhabitants
in a short time, what fining and force have they used,
and what spoyle have they made of many poor peoples goods,
and how have they exceeded in cruelty, & what torturing and
Prisoning, and Whipping, & Scourging have they made not on-
ly of strangers (whom they ought to have received and enter-
tained, especially seeing they sought not themselves but
the good of them all and their Countrey) but also upon their
Inhabitants; And how have they grinded the faces of the
poor, and in stead of protecting them in that Province, and
saving them from wrong, hath themselves been the chief in-
struments of doing them harm and wronging them, and op-
pressing them, and yet not for evil doing, it may be for not
doing a Hat, or because they cannot learn to be swift to
shed blood, and these are become so great crimes in these mens
sight,

fight, that 6. or 7. or 10 pound or more, which are great sums among poor people, will not satisfy for such offences, as they look upon them; But what have they no weightier matters to call counsels about, but to make Laws and Orders in their proud envious nature to fine them who can not flatter them nor complement; there are no Rulers for God, but for the Beast, and in his power they act and have done all these wicked things, for which the Lord God will plead with them when he rises in his Power to make the Mountains melt, and to shake terribly the Earth, and plead the cause of the Poor that hath no helper in the Earth, and yet this would be counted a lawful Authority and the higher Power, whose works demonstrates them to be from the lowest Pit of utter darkness, and their works to be the works of Death and darkness; And the God of the World having to blinded their mens eyes, they think its for the Glory of God and the good of their Countrey, As the *Jews* did, thought to do God service when they shamefully intreated his servants and messengers, and abused them that were sent unto them in the Name of the Lord; And as though making spoyl and doing of violence, and devouring and wasting the Estates of their Inhabitants, would be for the well being and good of their Countrey, and enrich their Plantations, when they that bear a part of the Common charge thereof, and have been industrious as for the benefit of the whole are thus made a prey and a spoyl of; Verily, verily my heart is grieved, and my spirit is vexed because of these doings; Oh! this stains your glory, and causes the Name of the Living God to be dishonoured among them that make no mention of it as you do, neither professeth knowledg of him nor worship of his Name as you do; for they may well judge if to bring forth such barbarous actions of cruelty & oppression, & violence, be the fruit that Christians brings forth, that they will never be Christians; For there is a principle in the *Indians* and Heathens, which abhors this, and if these actions bring honour to God, they may well conclude never to serve your God, and that such oppression should be acted among your own People, and upon the People of your own Nation, they justly may conclude you to be Ignorant and your Government naught; Oh! this causes a bad favour in the Nations, and these are bad examples to others,

others, for this strengthens the hands of the wicked, and provokes others to wickednesse, and also will bring a judgement upon you; For sin is a reproach to any people, and the wages thereof is death and destruction.

Therefore Oh you Rulers and heads of the people, who should be for the praise of them that do well, and for the help of the upright, and for nourishing of the poor and needy; Repent you of what you have done and confesse to the Lord your great evil, leaſt his hand be utterly turned againſt you, and you become as chaffe before the wind, and as stubble before his bow, and be utterly deſtroyed and cut off; Conſider what you have done, & how all this haſty furious work hath not at all advantaged you, for there is a ſeed that God will gather in thoſe ſeſes to himſelf out of the deceit of the World, and out of the vain cuſtoms and faſhions of your Countrey, and out of a feigned profeſſion without the life, to worſhip him in life and ſpirit, and though you ſhould ſeek to withſtand the Lord as you have done hitherto with a high hand, your contrivance ſhall come to naught, nay though you ſhould ſtrengthen and harden your hearts yet more, and in your hearts ſay as the rebellious *Jews* of whom the Prophet ſpoke, though the bricks be fallen down, yet we will build with hewen ſtone; though what you have done do not ſtop that which you would do, and ſo go about to invent further miſchief, as thoſe uncircumciſed men of *New England* have done, and ſhould proceed to further blood-ſhed, at laſt it would come upon your ſelves and you would be plunged into miſery; for the covenant with Death muſt be broken and the agreement with Hell diſannulled, and the ſtrength and power of darkneſſe overthrowen, and Innocency Life and Truth ſet above it all; For let me tell you that there is no weapon formed againſt this people that ſhall proſper, though you may prevail againſt their perſons and eſtates, yet the Spirit which is their life and leader is invincible, therefore be aſhamed and repent and view over your actions again here in this diſcourſe and condemn them, and proceed no further to your hurt, leaſt greater miſery come upon you.

This is a declaration of some of the Sufferings of Thomas Thurston, and other friends, whilst they were in the Province of Mariland, and also the loss of Goods and Lands of many of the Inhabitants in that Province, By order from Sicilia Baltamore and his Officers, in the year, 1658. and 1659.

AFTER Thomas Thurston and Josiah Coale were arrived in Virginia, being moved of the Lord to go into that parts, and after a long time had suffered imprisonment in Virginia, the Word of the Lord came unto Thomas Thurston as he was in the Prison, saying, I will deliver thee & bring thee among the people that I sent thee to at the first, wch was to *Seavern* in *Mariland*: Which accordingly was fulfilled in a few daies, having faith given him to believe in it over all the Powers of darkness: And after some few daies we came into the Province of *Mariland*, and when we had passed a little while upon the land, this word came to Thomas Thurstone, The Fields are white to harvest, and that the Lord had a Noble Seed to be gathered in that place; and so after a while we had bin there, much People their ears were open to hear the Truth, and their hearts to receive it, and many were turn'd from iniquity, then began the enemies of God to appear, as formally they have done in all ages, and gone on after this manner, Prisoning, Persecuting, Banishing, and Whipping the servants of the Lord: In the year, 58. about the latter end of the 5th. Moneth, a warrant was given forth by the Governour, being set on by malicious men, as *Edward Lloyd* being chief in that thing, notwithstanding he was a great Professor, and one of an Independent Church so called, and several others that set the Governour on contrary to his minde, the warrant being delivered to the Shrieff of *Patuxent* to take Thomas Thurston and him to keep as a Blasphemer, and safely to detain without bail or mainprize till further order from the Governour, Notwithstanding Thomas Thurston had broken no law of that Province, nor wronged neither man nor woman, neither proved a blasphemer; And after about sixteen daies remaining in Prison, the Governour sent for Thomas Thurston and set him

him at liberty, and dealt courteously with him; about the same time *Jesh b Cele* was in Prison in *Seaveron*, in the same Province, not having the breach of any law laid to his charge, the Governour gave order also that he should be set at liberty with *Thomas Thurston*; and to go where their freedom was, which was to *New England* by land through the desolate Wilderness; And after they had entered amongst the *Indians*, they abode several nights with them, and afterward took their journey as aforesaid, and their love did more abound toward them than that people that are called Christians in *Virginia*, & the Province of *Maryland* as doth plainly appear, for they were never prisoned nor abused by none of them in all their journey, but their love was multiplied towards them every way as they could be helpful to them, from the greatest to the least, Kings, Nobles, and Governours, and many a time did one of their Kings carry *Thomas Thurston* through many Rivers upon his back in time of his sicknesse; And after a long travel through that desert place, which took up about seven weeks time, seeing no habitations but *Indians*, In all this time their heads were lifted up above all these things, and found the Lords Power & Prefence with them carrying them through those desolate Countreys; after which they had travelled about 4. or 600 miles, they came to a Plantation of the Dutch called the *Manatus*; The Governour of that Town, having information that they were coming to the Town he sent a Boat with men in it to take them upon the Water before they came on shoar, and forced them into the Town, and brought them before the Governour, and he examined them from whence they came, and they told him from *Virginia* by land, and he told them that he would send them back thither again; Notwithstanding *Thomas Thurston* was so weak with sicknesse that he could hardly stand upon his legs, so he kept them about Four or Five houres in the Court of guard, and would not suffer us to go into the Town to refresh our bodies with food, but got two Negroes and the Martial to carry us back in the Boat, and the two Negroes took up *Thomas Thurston* one by the armes and shoulders, and the other by the legs and carried him away into the Boat, and the Martial commanded the Negroes to put them a shoar on the main land from whence they came, which was about 7 miles; and also the said Governour did give the Martial a charge

charge that no Dutch, English nor Indians should set them over again nor give them entertainment; and *Tho. Thurston* asked the said Martial when they came a shoar what they may do now, and he answered that for your selves: And after they had waited some daies, we got Indians to set us over the River again, near to the Town, and so we passed on our journey to *Paul Hook*, and after *Thomas Thurston* spent sometime there, *Christopher Holder* and he being moved of the Lord, came to the Province of *Marilyn* about the first month, 1641. And at the 2^d meeting they had there, *Nathaniel Wy* gave out a warrant to the Sheriff of *Seavern*, to take *Thomas Thurston* and to keep him without bail or main-prise, not mentioning any crime or laying any thing to his charge; And after a few weeks *Tho. Thurston* was brought to the Provincial Court at *Purxent*, and there examined by the Governour and Council, and *Tho. Thurston* demanded that his accusers might be brought face to face, being accused for disturbing the present Government, and breaking of the Peace; but there was no accuser appeared, nor could they lay any thing to his charge, and when they saw that they had nothing to intare him with to hide themselves, they asked him whether he would take the Ingagement; *Thomas Thurston* answered he could not swear nor ingage to be a servant to man, but if that he had done wrong to any man woman or child in that Province, let them come forth and declare it, but none appeared nor spoke word to accuse him of any harm done to any; so after a while they drew up an order after this manner; That whereas *Tho. Thurston*, refuseth to take the Ingagement, it is ordered by the Court that he is to remain a year and one day Prisoner; so he was delivered Prisoner into the custody of *William Courtis* Sheriff where he remained some short time, and in that space of about 9 Weeks the said *Tho. Thurston* had eight keepers and twice without a keeper, and when his keepers left him he went to the Governour both times and sought him from place to place, and told him that his keepers had left him and knew not whom to come to but to him to know whether he were a freeman or not, and after some time the Governour took him to his own house and dealt kindly with him, and at length set him at liberty, as the Order from him will manifest, that none should molest nor trouble him; So after about ten weeks

weekshad past, some of the Chief of the Province with the
 Governour, as *Edward Lloyd*, who always was forward to
 lift up his hand against the Innocent, with *Nathaniel Ty*,
Philip Calvert Secretary, and others caused the Governour
 to subscribe to an order against all friends to be taken up as
 Vagabonds, and Whipt, and sent out of the Province, and
 about that time *Tho. Thurston* came into the Province again,
 and immediately a warrant was sent forth to take the said
Tho. Thurston, and the said *Tho. Thurston* having an order for
 his liberty denied this Warrant which proceeded from *Nathaniel Ty*:
 So the Sheriff *John Norwood* who was once a Mem-
 ber of an Independent Church so called, sent to *Nathaniel Ty*
 for armed men, and the said *Ty* came with armed men
 in great rage and fury, and asked him why he would not obey
 his warrant, *Tho. Thurston* answered him that he had an Or-
 der to passe the Countrey without let or molestation, and un-
 til he saw an order from the Governour to the contrary, he
 should not obey; Then *Nathaniel Ty* answered that the
 Governour had done more then he could answer; and pre-
 sently called to the Sheriff *John Norwood* and bad him do his
 office, and there was his assistance who was alwayes ready to
 do the works of darknesse; so the Sheriff commanded the ar-
 med men, that if he the said *Thurston* would not go down,
 they should drag him down the stairs; so they laid hands
 on him, and one *Richard Dearour* fell on him like a wilde
 beast, and so they dragged him down the stairs on his back,
 and abused him more like a Dog then a man; so when they
 had drag'd him down, the Power of the Lord was over
 them all, and they set him at liberty; Shortly after he was
 sent for to a Court at *Seavern*, and to they made an Order in
 particular against *Tho. Thurston*, that if he did not depart
 within so many daies as is mentioned in the Order, he was to
 be whipt with 39. lashes on the bare back, and to be sent from
 Constable to Constable out of the Province, and so disannuld
 their former order to proceed against him as a vagabond, and
 to *Tho. Thurston* it being laid upon him from the Lord to stay
 in the Province, did chuse rather to obey God then man, not
 fearing their proud looks and their cruel words and threat-
 nings, could not for conscience sake towards God passe out
 of the Province without a command from him, freely gave

himself up to suffer under their cruel laws, so that he may stand guiltlesse before the Lord, and not be a transgressor of his Righteous Command; and so when the time was expired (limited by them) they went according to their order, and and sent the said *Thomas Thurston* from Constable to Constable, and the Constable near the Governours; whose name is *Christopher Russell*, who a little before took one of his Children by one arm and threw it on the ground in great wrath, and broke one of his principle bones, so that he went by Crutches; and when *Thomas Thurston* was brought to this *Russells* house he told him that he must whip him; he asked the Constable whether he had an order to whip him on the bare back, he told him that he knew how men was whipt, *Tho. Thurston* told him he had no order for what he did, and bid him take heed what he did without order; so this Constable sent this warrant to the Governour, and incest'd the Governour against him and caused the warrant to be enterlined, and to be whipt (on the bare back) and accordingly this cruel man caused him to be whipt with 30. lashes, and at the same time he was not in health in his body, and so sent him to the next Constable who carried him out of the Province; again it lay upon *Tho. Thurston* from the Lord to go into the Province of *Maryland*, and after he came there and being at a meeting with friends, was apprehended by a Constable and brought before *Edward Lloyd*, he asked of *Tho. Thurston* whether he knew not of an Order of Court which was to this effect, that he might not stay in the Province; *Tho. Thurston* answered thus that he had rather obey God than man, and so *Edward Lloyd* he said he must put it in execution, and the said *Lloyd* caused the Constable to be sent for and gave him a charge to do his office, which was to whip *Tho. Thurston* with 30. lashes so this Constable told *Edward Lloyd* that he could not do it, nor would not, & *Edward Lloyd* answered that if he would not do his office, he would send him to the Sheriff *John Norwood*, so he brought the Constable under slavery and bondage, and caused him to do that he would not have done, and said that it was no persecution; So after this Constable had whipt him, he gave him liberty to go to a friends house that night, and the next day brought him to the next Constable, one *William Telfer*

Tolson who dealt brutishly with the said *Thomas Thurston*; and would not suffer him to go to his Friends house all night, but caused him to be in the field all night, and so was he brought from Constable to Constable about twenty miles; and then by a Constable he was set at liberty; and after he came to *Edward Leyd* the chief Persecutor, and told him how the Constable had set him at liberty, and whether it were so or not, whether he might take his liberty, he answered he might not, he must fulfill the order of Court, and after a night and part of a day he had detained him, he sent for *Nathaniel Vry*, and set *Thomas Thurston* at liberty; about the midit of their persecution *Edward Leyd* and *Nathaniel Vry* had caused *John Norwood* Sheriff to presse a Boat and men to carry him away to the Northward amongst the *Indians*, intending to have destroyed his body; and one of the men that was prest to go, told them that he would not go let them do what they would to him, and so their power faild them, and their wicked intent came to nothing; after this *Thomas Thurston* went into *Virginia*, and came again into the Province of *Mariiland*, and *Nathaniel Vry* said, that if ever *Thomas Thurston* came again into the Province, he would do what he could to hang him, witnesse *Samuel Chew*; So shortly after he came in there was a Warrant issued out from *Thomas Tod* one of the Commissioners, and sent to the Constable; the Constable according to the Warrant came and arrested *Thomas Thurston* in the Meeting, and there was there present an honest Magistrate, and enquired if any man there had ought to say against him, if not, he might use his freedome, and there was none could accuse him for ought, and thereupon releast him.

And thus hath the Servants of the Lord been tossed too and fro by the raging Sea that brings forth a cast up mire and dirt, who seems to overflow, yet the bounds is set that it cannot passe, and the Lord hath preserved them in the midit of all that they have not been drowned, though they have gone into the deep, and as passed through great Waters, where the Arm of the Lord hath wonderfully preserved them for his Name, to finish their Testimony, and to clear themselves of the blood of all men, that they may lay down their heads in Peace and Rest in his Holy Habitation, where the wicked can-

not come, neither such violent doers as are before mentioned can enter except they repent; and now to take a view of the sad suffering of their own Inhabitants, and thou may see they have no love to their Neighbour, because the Love of God dwells not in their hearts, neither can they rule for God.

A Declaration of the Sufferings of the Inhabitants of the Province of Mariland in Virginia, as Followeth.

William Teller and Thomas Homewood, had taken from them because they could not be conformable to the unrighteous Orders of Court made by the Officers of *Cecilia Baltimore* in *Maryland*, to the value in goods, eight pounds five shillings and eight pence.

Taken from *Richard Keen* for not training, the sum of six pound fifteen shillings by the Sheriff, and his Servants having received much abuse; the Sheriff drew his Cutlash, and with the point made a thrust at his Breast, and struck him over the shoulders, and said you rogue I could find in my heart to split your brains; the Sheriffs name is *William Corsey*, there be several Witnesses to testify the Truth of this thing.

Again this Capt. of the Souldiers, whose name is *John Odior*, with Justice *Askham* with a rude crew, drank out certain Casks of Wine bought of Justice *Askham*, for which Wine they came to *Richard Keen* and to other mens houses to take away their goods, to make payment for that which they had idly spent: Justice *Askham* so called, coming to *Richard Keens* house, was taxed by the Wife of *Richard Keen* for being drunk at one of their Randivous; He replied he was not drunk, for said he a man is never drunk if he can go out of the carts way when it is coming towards him.

William Muffit fined for not training to the value of six pounds fifteen shillings; and one *John Bigge* an Officer of Captain *Thomas Brock* gave order to the Sheriff, that if he could not take his goods to take his Chest, if not his Chest his Shirts.

John

John Knap had taken from him for not training goods to the value of seven pounds ten shillings with a Chest, and fined to the value of three pounds ten shillings for not swearing, he being an ancient man about sixty years of age, and hath laboured hard in the strength of his dayes and years, to get these goods together.

William Berry was fined to the value of three pounds fifteen shillings for entertaining *Thomas Thurston* into his house one night.

Michael Brookes fined seven pounds ten shillings because he could not swear, and four pounds ten shillings because he could not train under the command of *John Odior* Captain, who declared in the presence of many that they were not fit to be Souldiers that could not swear, be drunk and whore it.

Edward Keen fined for not training to the value of four pounds ten shillings, under the said *Odior* Captain.

Edward Hinkelman fined to the value of four pounds ten shillings for not training under the said *J. Odior*.

Henry Osborn fined to the value of three pounds fifteen shillings because he entertained *Thomas Thurston* one night, and to the value of four pounds ten shillings for not Training under *John Odior* Captain.

John Day fined to the value of three pounds fifteen shillings for entertaining *Thomas Thurston*, and to the value of four pounds ten shillings for not Training.

Woodman Stockley fined to the value of three pounds fifteen shillings for not taking the oath of a Constable

Richard Preston was fined to the value of three pounds fifteen shillings for entertaining *Thomas Thurston* one night in his house.

Taken from *John Baldwin* to the value of five pounds five shillings for not Training.

Taken from *Tho. Cole* to the value of forty eight pounds because he could not swear.

Thomas Mears was fined to the value of eight pounds five shillings because he could not swear. Likewise *John Norwood* Sheriff took away in goods from the said *Mears* to the value of five pounds because his son could not Train.

Taken from *Robert Clark son* to the value of five pounds because he could not swear, and for not Training to the value of forty shillings.

Taken

Taken from *Henry Woolchurch* because he could not Train to the value of five pounds five shillings.

Taken from *Edmond Borton* because he could not swear, to the value of eight pounds, he being a poor man.

Taken from *Susan Eliot* to the value of sixteen shillings for her man missing once Training.

Taken from *John Larking* to the value of fifteen pounds, because he could not swear.

Taken from *Robert Harwood* to the value of eleven pounds, because he could not swear.

Taken from *John Humwood* to the value of seven pounds ten shillings, because he could not Train.

Taken from *Thomas Underwood* because he could not swear to the value of seven pounds ten shillings, he being a very poor lame man, and not the use of his Limbs to labor, and hath a Wife and four small Children.

James Paschal a poor man, having a wife and two small children, and his wife big with another, *John Norwood Sheriff* took from him for the value of three pence three farthings, to the value of three shillings three half-pence, in meat that was provided for his wife and children, and said that the Court had lent it him for the imprisoning of *Theo. Thurston*.

Jonathan Neale had taken from him because he could not train, to the value of forty five shillings.

Hugh Drue fined to the value of four pounds ten shillings, he being a very poor man and in debt, sold his Cow to satisfy part of his debts; *Baltimore's* Officers having knowledge of it, seized upon that he sold his Cow for, which was to the value of five pounds five shillings because he could not train.

William Davis for not training fined to the value of four pounds ten shillings, and had taken from him in goods to the value of five pounds eleven shillings, he being a very poor man.

William Cole had taken from him one Servant valued to be worth sixteen pounds, which was his Apprentice bound for seven years, valued to be worth by them five pounds five shillings, taken from him because he could not Train.

John Norwood Sheriff, came and demanded of *Samuel Chew*, to the value of eighteen pence, for the Imprisonment of *Theo.*

Thurston

Thereon, he denying to pay it took from him to the value of three shillings.

Taken from *Richard Ensal* upon the same Demand for Impriſonment of *Theo. Thurston*, for four pence halfpenny, taken from him to the value of twenty pence halfpenny.

Thomas Turner was in Court, having buſineſs there, and coming with his Hat on before the Court, where was preſent *Edward Lloyd*, and *Samuel Withers*, they cauſed his Hat to be taken from him, and never return'd it again.

Again, the ſaid *Th. Turner* was before the Court, where was preſent *Samuel Withers*, and *Thomas Todd*, and *Thomas B. Esq.*, and becauſe he could not bow to them they cauſed his hat to be taken away, and never returned him again.

Ralph Hawkins becauſe he could not ſwear had taken from him to the value of ten pounds five ſhillings, he being but a poor man, and it is likely, it is more than one third of his Eſtate.

Robert Dun had taken from him becauſe he could not Train, to the value of eight pounds five ſhillings.

Francis Barnes had taken from him, becauſe he could not Train, to the value of fix pounds five ſhillings.

John Ellis for not Training, had taken from him to the value of fix pounds five ſhillings.

Henry Carline had taken from him, becauſe he could not put off his Hat in Court, to the value of three pounds fifteen ſhillings.

Taken from *William Eliatt*, becauſe he could not Train, to the value of four pounds ſeventeen ſhillings ſixpence.

Edward Coppedg, becauſe he could not Train, had to the value of five pounds ſeven ſhillings ſix pence taken from him, and ſuffered puniſhment by whipping on the bare Back, a very poor man, having a wife and two ſmal children.

More taken from *Henry Carline* for not Training, one Cow, one Calf, one yearling Heifer, prized by them but at the value of five pounds, thirteen ſhillings ſix pence.

John Woolcott had taken from him by *John Norwood* Sheriff, becauſe he could not Train, to the value of five pounds five ſhillings.

William Read becauſe he could not Train, had taken from him

him one Servant, valued at four pounds ten shillings by them, which had about a year to serve, he being a very poor man, and his Servant was accounted to be worth seven pounds ten shillings.

Ismael Rite, and *William Stokden*, and *Guy White*, for not Training the Sheriff *William Coursey* by order from Captain *John Alder* hath violently taken from them to the value of seven pounds, and the Sheriff threatened to turn us out of our house and Plantation, *John Askeham* Justice of peace being by at that time; And further they arrested *Thomas Rite* to the Court, and would have him to take the oath of a Constable, he refused to take the oath, but told them he would perform the office faithfully so far as his conscience was clear, but that would not satisfy them, they threatened to fine him to the value of seven pounds ten shillings, the Sheriff took away for fees to the value of forty five shillings.

The sum is 15 10 60

John Holladay for not Training had taken from him the value in goods five pounds six shillings and three pence.

Again for not assisting the Sheriff *John Normool*, to take *Thomas Thurston*, was whipt severely.

These are not all the Sufferings by much which this poor people have undergone, and not for evil doing, but for keeping Faith and a good Conscience, which many hath put away and made shipwrack of, else all these inhumane, barbarous, cruel works of darkness could never have been brought forth, which hath shamed their Government and their Profession, which all that have any knowledge of God cannot but abhor and say, Oh! my Soul come not in their secreters, neither tread in their paths, for these marks are not the marks of them that rule in the Power of God, neither these spots the spot of his People, but marks of the Beast, and marks of the Harlot who hath forsaken her Maker the Lord of Hosts, and now is gone after other lovers, and the children that she brings forth is the children of fornication; and as the Prophet saith, *As is the Mother for the Daughter*, as is the Church so is the members, all corrupted and gone out of the way, so that the Lord hath no pleasure in them, neither his presence known among them;

for

For if it had, they would have trembled to haveasted any of these cruel things against them who are turned to the Lord out of Cruelty, Deceit and Violence, which would have been a blessing to your Countrey, but this is fulfilled; He that departs from iniquity makes himself a prey and becomes a Butte for all the arrows of the ungodly to be shot at; but blessed are they that have on the Armor of God, they enter not there neither doth hurt the life; For by Faith in the light is all the fiery darts of the wicked one quenched, the bowes of the ungodly broken though they be as steel, and their spears knaped assunder, the Armies of the *Aliens* put to flight and the edge of the sword escaped; And this honour have all the Saints who dwell in that which keeps the heart clean, and do overcome through faith and through suffering.

And therefore all that fear the Lord in that place heed none of these things, for this is the cup that all must drink of, who comes to drink of the cup of Salvation, this hath been the portion which they have had, in the World trouble, but in the Life peace, and Christ who hath enlightned you is that Life, waite all that you may feel him to be your portion, and then notwithstanding all outward sufferings you will say and that from a true feeling, my lot is fallen in a fair ground, I have a goodly heritage, and this God will give you to enjoy, if you continue to the end faithful & steadfast in the will of him who is near you to direct you and guide your feet in the way of Peace, and to lift up your heads above all opposition, and make you more then Conquerers over Death and the power thereof, and over the Grave, and over all that which hinders the love of God from being revealed unto your Soules, which as you waite in the patience, strength from the Lord will be Administred unto you to carry you through the Fire, and through the Water, and through the Floods, and you shall be preserved, and neither burnt nor drowned, for his care will be over you who sits upon the floods, and the windes and the Sea obey him; And therefore my dearly beloved ones, unto whom the Lord hath reached in those parts, and whom he hath visited in this the day of his Power, wherein he is exalting his Name which hath long been debased in the Nations, and his Salvation in the Earth, and the utmost parts shall be a

D

possession

possession for his Son, who hath long suffered and born the iniquity of the people, and have suffered because the sheep have been astray, but now is the Lord bringing them back that have been driven away, and them that have been scattered, that he may feed them, that they be no more a prey to the Foxes and evil beasts which have devoured them; prize the love of God in that he should follow you with his love, and send his Servants unto you to call you home who were astray, and to give up their lives freely that you might be made free, and to suffer that you might be brought out of prison; Now I say you having heard and believed the Truth, keep down all that which would lead you to question again, and look not out at sufferings and difficulties, For this I testify unto you must be the Cup that all must drinks of, who come to enter in at the strait way, and blessed and happy are they who give up all freely unto his heavenly will, for the same we passed through before we came to see the reward, and to reap joy, there is a time of winter, wait in the patience and be not offended, because naught but barrenness and barrenness appears for a while within, when summer comes the desolate shall rejoice, and the thirsty land shall become a land of springs, at which the flocks shall drink, and the herds shall be refreshed; and heed not the winter storms without, neither the boisterous floods, he will rebuke the Winde and the Sea, and they shall obey him, and the spring you shall see, so keep the Hope, the Anchor, and there will be a stay for your hearts in time of danger, and you will see the storm over, and the winde still, and then the shower of Righteousness shall descend upon the tender Plant, and the rain, the Gentle showers which he brings out of his Treasure will refresh the Inheritance of the Lord which hath long been dry, and the dew will distil upon the tender grace, and the brightness of the Sun will refresh the heart and make it glad, these things are true and faithful, and God will vouchsafe them unto you as you all abide in patience in the Cross to all the mortal, it shall dye, and immortality and life you will see brought to light through the Gospel, the love of God is to you, and the thoughts of his heart was towards you for good, as God shewed unto me five years ago, where I say *Virg.*

was a beautiful Garden, upon which the Sun did shine
 most pleasantly, and the Aire was clear, and the glory
 of the Lord did overshadow it, even to my amuse-ment, at
 which my heart was glad and my Spirit rejoiced in the God
 of the whole earth; And seeing the Lord hath begun his glo-
 rious work among you, and is shining forth as from mount Pa-
 rian in his excellent beauty, keep all your hearts pure and your
 Consciences clear, that you may see him, for so is his pro-
 mise, the pure in heart shall see God, and to see the presence
 of God that gives life, and the light of his countenance is
 that which maketh glad the heart; therefore as the beloved
 of God put on man-hood, never heed the Dragons power,
 neither the Beasts threats, neither the Harlots censures, but be
 valiant for the truth upon earth, for the Lamb is arisen who
 shall tread down his enemies in his wrath, and make them all
 as burnt mountains and his followers with him, and his host
 is numberless, and their voice shall be as many waters which
 shall bring dread upon the Nations, who worship the Beast and
 hath received his mark, and make the hypocrites tremble,
 and they all march on in his strength, and doth not break
 their ranks; follow him for the victory is his, its decreed in
 Heaven, who shall reverse it or alter it, and all that follow
 shall triumph in his strength, and their enemies shall be as
 ashes under the soles of their feet, and his weapons are spiri-
 tual, and so are all his followers, and they are keen and sharp,
 and they shall wound the head of the Kings enemies (who is
 the Lord our Righteousness, the God of all grace fill you
 with patience and long suffering, that you may as good Soul-
 diers fight the good fight of Faith, that you may be crowned
 with immortality and life Everlasting, which God the Lord of
 life and glory will give unto all them that love the app-earance
 of our Lord Jesus Christ, is the desire and prayer of him that
 desires the good of all which stand nearly related unto the
 household of Faith.

Westmorland,

1660.

F. H.

THE END.